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NJMC Allocates $100,000 for Employment Opportunities

LYNDHURST, N.J. – The Board of the New Jersey Meadowlands Commission today allocated $100,000 for a second year of funding for the Meadowlands Employment Opportunity Center in accordance with the agency's new Comprehensive Action Plan and annual economic growth plan.

"The Meadowlands District is home to a dedicated workforce and a broad range of industries poised for growth," said NJMC Chairwoman and New Jersey Department of Community Affairs Commissioner Susan Bass Levin. "The strategic investment we make in this region today will help us sustain New Jersey's future as a premier place to live, to work, and to visit in the years ahead."

An initial grant of $100,000 was awarded to the Meadowlands Regional Chamber of Commerce in 2006 to create the Meadowlands Employment Opportunity Center. The center maintains an online job bank to connect Meadowlands area businesses to the region's workforce. More than 200 local jobs were posted on the site at the end of 2006.

The center also sponsors job fairs for area residents and works with the newly formed Meadowlands Workforce Development Consortium to offer training and assistance to workers seeking to meet future demands.

An additional $300,000 in grants may become available for the center in coming years through the NJMC's MAGNET (Meadowlands Area Grants for Natural and Economic Transformation) program. This movement of funds is in line with the NJMC's annual economic growth plan and its stated strategy to develop and prepare the workforce.

"Building upon the successes of these programs, we can help the regional economy thrive in an increasingly competitive marketplace," said NJMC Commissioner Leonard R. Kaiser. "Now more than ever, the Meadowlands is claiming its place as one of the most exciting economic engines on the east coast."

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